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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM



A-TYPE
FAN SONG RADARS IN
NORTH VIETNAM

TCS-20205/68

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A-TYPE FAN SONG RADARS IN NORTH VIETNAM

Analysis of recent aerial photography reveals three sightings of A-type FAN SONG radars, possibly indicating further Chinese involvement in the North Vietnamese air defense system. These radars are at the Hanoi SAM Site B17A-2 (Figure 1), Hanoi SAM Site B36-2, and Hanoi SAM Site A10-2. Prior to the [] observations in North Vietnam, the A-type FAN SONG radar had been observed only in China at the Shantan SAM Training Area, Sanyuan SAM Training Area, Wushatala SAM Site A15-2 (Figure 2), Changchou SAM Site A01-2, Sharpo SAM Site A23-2, Haiyen SAM Site B25-2, and Lanchou SAM Site C25-2.

Similar in appearance to the FAN SONG A radar, the A-type FAN SONG is a Chicom-type of modification, probably to the FAN SONG B radar, which is known to be in both the Chicom and North Vietnamese inventories. The A-type modification consists of an additional dish, approximately [] in diameter, mounted at the center of the horizontal trough (Figure 3).

[] an unusual FAN SONG signal in North Vietnam was intercepted by an airborne collection system. The FAN SONG signal was operating in high pulse rate frequency, steady scan, lobe-on-receive only (LORO) mode. The LORO mode has the advantage of denying both tracking beam position information and FAN SONG lockon signals to pilots. A U.S. pilot stated in a recent report that he saw a SAM lift off and head for his aircraft and that he had no prior electronic warning. Since geographic coordinates have not been established as to the source of these signals, no firm correlation can be made between the unusual FAN SONG signal and the A-type radar.

With the identification of the third A-type FAN SONG radar in [] a possible deployment pattern may be emerging. Sites with A-type radar are now located within 11 nm of Hanoi, generally north, south, and east of the complex.

There is no photographic evidence of this A-type radar being deployed within the USSR or Communist Bloc countries other than China and North Vietnam.

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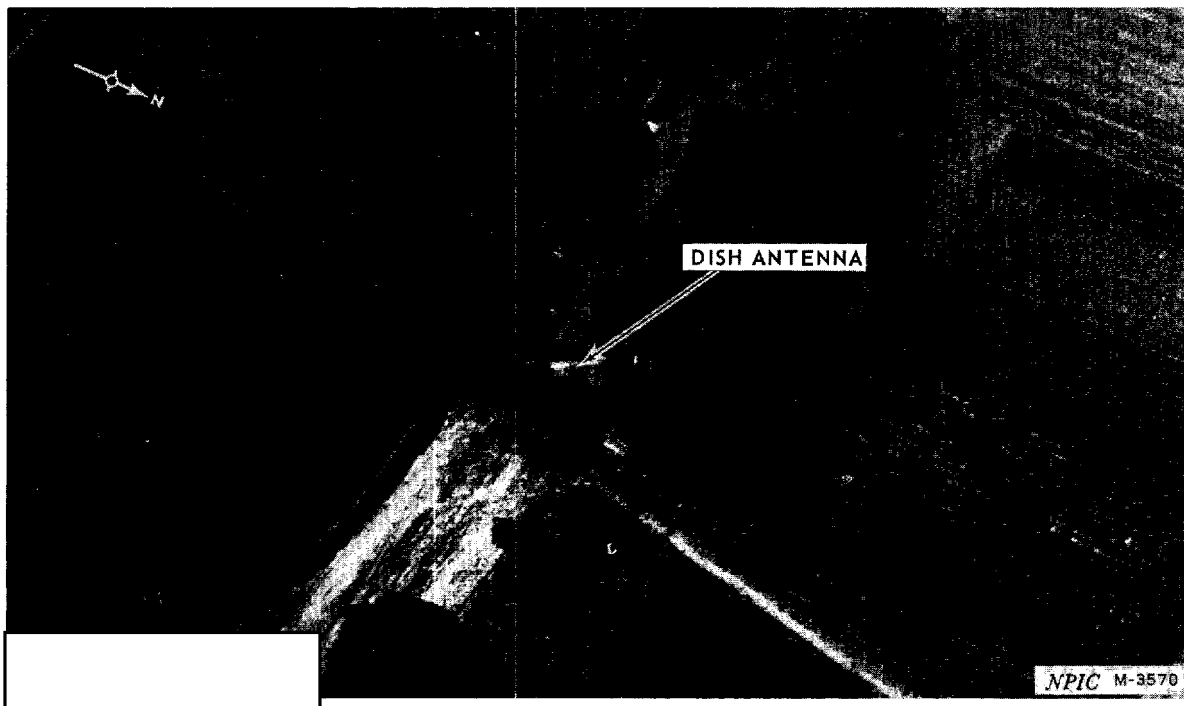


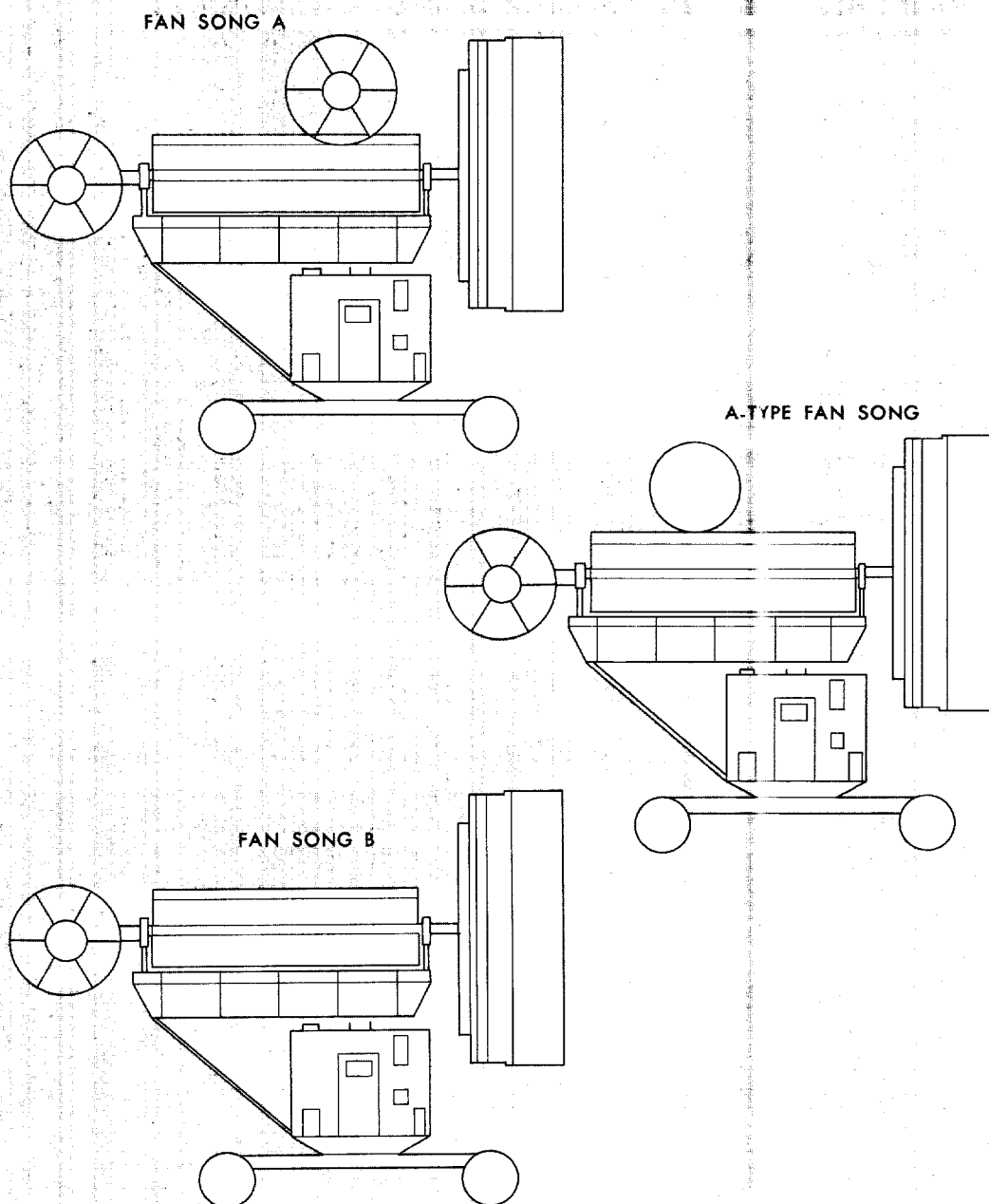
FIGURE 1. HANOI SAM SITE B17A-2, NORTH VIETNAM

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FIGURE 3. FAN SONG A RADAR, A-TYPE FAN SONG RADAR, AND FAN SONG B RADAR

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